



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/288,577	08/10/94	JOHNSON	J FS2

LM21/1120

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PITTSBURGH PA 15219

EXAMINER
COSIMANO, E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2761	#15

DATE MAILED: 11/20/98

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks



## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

LM21/1120

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
08/288,577	08/10/94	045	CUSIMANO, E	11/20/95
First Named Applicant	JOHNSON, SS USC 134(b) term ext. 4 (2.1)			

TITLE OF INVENTION: ELECTRONIC SOURCING SYSTEM AND METHOD

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2 FS2	705-026.000	L77	UTILITY	NO	\$1,600.00	03/27/96

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

**HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:**

- I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.  
 If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or  
 B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or

- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

- II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.  
 Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.  
08/288,577

Applicant(s)  
Johnson et al

Examiner  
Edward R. Cosimano

Group Art Unit  
2761



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed September 14, 1998 and the interview of Nov 09, 1998

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 79-83, 85-87, 90-94, 96-112, 114-118 & 120-129

☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. 8.

☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on Sep 14, 1998, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☒ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

*Edward Cosimano*  
EDWARD R. COSIMANO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 2761

Art Unit 2761

1. Applicant should note the changes to patent practice and procedure effective December 01, 1997 as published in the Federal Register, Vol 62, No. 197, Friday October 10, 1997.
2. An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

#### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

In the specification:

Please substitute appendices "I", "II", "III", "IV", "V", "VI", "VII", "VIII", "IX" & "X" as filed September 14, 1998 for the originally filed appendices "I", "II", "III", "IV", "V", "VI", "VII", "VIII", "IX" & "X".

In the claims:

Cancel claims 84, 95, 113 & 119.

- 2.1 Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with representative Tabachnick on November 09, 1998.

3. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

A) converting items found in one vendor's catalog to another vendor, (claims 81-83, 85-87, 90-94, 96-100, 110-112, 114-118, 120-123 & 125-128), or

B) searching only sections of the database (claims 79, 80, 101-109, 124 & 129).

- 3.1 Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. In the interview of November 09, 1998, the examiner set forth the following rejection of claims 84, 95, 113 & 119:

- 4.1 Claims 84, 95, 113 & 119 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Dworkin (4,992,940).

- 4.1.1 In regard to claims 84, 95, 113 & 119, Dworkin ('940) discloses a centralized ordering system. This centralized ordering system of Dworkin ('940) includes a data base that contains a number of different vendor catalogs for various products which are available to the user. Based

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on the user's search request, the system of Dworkin ('940) searches through the vendor/product database for matching products. The results of the search, i.e. matching products, are returned to the user, which may create a requisition to purchase the selected items.

4.2 In view of this rejection, applicant canceled claims 84, 95, 113 & 119 while reserving the right to prosecute claims 84, 95, 113 & 119 at a latter time.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward Cosimano whose telephone number is (703) 305-9783. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 7:30am to 6:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Todd Voeltz, can be reached on (703)-305-9714. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

5.1 The fax phone number for **UNOFFICIAL FAXES** for this group is (703) 308-5357.

5.2 The fax phone number for **OFFICIAL FAXES** for this group is either (703) 308-9051 or (703) 308-9052.

11/10/98

**Edward R. Cosimano**  
**Primary Examiner A.U. 2761**